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# The Post Dispatch

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Friday, July 29, 2011

## The little town that could

By: Jodi Lincoln  
News Editor

All across the nation there are thousands of rural towns, some as old as Post, some that are older in establishment. Almost every one of those small towns would tell you there is no other small town that compares to their community. And indeed, in a time of crisis or a disaster, communities do come together to help one another and feelings of goodwill abound among the community for some time afterward. Most of those communities are good communities to live and work in and are wonderful places to raise families. Some have claims to fame; some are thriving, while others are dying from years of a poor economy or other conditions. There are those that would tell you Post and Garza County is no different from any other small town in America. Those who live and work in Garza County would beg to differ with you. Here is just one of the many reasons why the residents of Garza County are indeed different from other rural towns in America. Wildfires!

Wildfires, a word that now strikes dread in the heart of many in this community. It has been a long, hard, hot, and extremely dry spring and summer creating perfect conditions for wildfires that have seemed to know no

end. As our local volunteer fire departments have battled against Mother Nature for months on end now, Mother Nature has taken her toll on both the men and women who struggle against her and the equipment they use to defend our land and homes with. As with any war, this one has been costly and has far exceeded the annual budget the departments had for operating expenses and the year had barely begun as far as the fire season was concerned. As word began to spread of their need for funds, the residents came together and stood beside their firefighters, working equally hard to keep them in operating funds.

Fundraisers began being planned and carried out over the summer months. School children began raising funds which led to the entire Post ISD getting onboard with the children's efforts. Several bracket suppers were held around the area, each having silent auctions, live auctions, raffles of items such as the John Deere Riding Mower donated by Citizens Bank and Hurst Farm Supply, various guns donated by individuals along with many other items sold at different events to raise funds. T-shirt were sold, fish fries were held, and donation jars were out at various businesses around town. Individuals and companies began making private donations. It wasn't



Post VFD Fire Chief Les Looney thanking Post ISD Elementary and Middle Schools for their donations which purchased three 5 ton brush trucks.

Photo by Jodi Lincoln

long after the word went out that both departments were in grave need of funds that this little community got on the ball and raised some \$230,000.00 dollars for the fire departments, allowing them to repair damaged and broken equipment, buy more and newer equipment. The students and staff of Post ISD raised \$30,610.00 out of which the department was able to buy three 5 ton brush trucks which were much

needed. Two remained with the Post unit and one went to Justiceburg. These trucks can go into areas that their equipment at that time could not access. The students were so proud to see what their money had bought for the departments. They were thrilled beyond words to be able to hold one last competition and select names for the new trucks which will be their "call signs" they respond to during fire runs, an

honor the students are very proud of.

The new brush trucks needed to be outfitted for fighting fires and additional funds were spent in buying new LED light bars for the new brush trucks, tanks, hoses, radios, monitors and 29 new tires and rims for the new brush trucks; the all labor including welding, plumbing, etc., to completely finish out the brush trucks. Additional expenditures for

the departments were new tires for the 2 1/2 ton brush trucks, and an ice machine and a small freezer for the firehouse in order to have ice on hand at all times. The Post department also purchased a Rehab Trailer that was much needed for firefighters on the scene of a grass fire. The purchase of the Rehab Trailer will allow them to

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Post Volunteer Fire Department fire house

Photo by Jodi Lincoln

## Post Notes

**Graham Chapel Methodist Church** invites everyone to come out Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 am to hear Hanks and Company Bluegrass Music. Listen to some uplifting music and go home with a blessing and a song in your heart.

### BINGO is Back

For one night only, Thursday, August 4, the Post Area Chamber of Commerce

(PACC) will host a community wide Bingo game. This event is a fundraiser for the Chamber and the Women's Division, which is in charge of the concession stand.

There will be a total of 10 games played at a cost of \$1 per game. Each game sheet contains 6 cards. "We hope this will be an entertaining evening for our community" said Gregg Tidmore, commit-

tee chairman. Prizes donated by local merchants and citizens will be awarded to each winner. "We will also have drawings for door prizes between some of the games. We are looking forward to a fun evening," added Tidmore.

The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. at the Post Com-

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## The unsung heroes

By Jodi Lincoln  
News Editor

When you hear the word heroes, it conjures up images of someone unique who has saved the day with some sort of bravery or power that most people do not possess. There are as many different kinds of heroes as there are heroes, but then there are the heroes who are never seen in such a light. They are often the ones who are in the background quietly making it possible for someone else to be in the foreground. Such is the case with the families of our volunteer firefighters and we here at the Post Dispatch would like to say a special thank you to all the families of our firefighters. Your sacrifices do not go unappreciated by our community.

As I went around talking with different volunteers these past weeks preparing to pay tribute to the Garza County fire departments, I kept hearing much the same thing from all those I spoke with. And that was, "we are not the ones who deserve to be thanked. It is our families who stand behind us as we fulfill the choice we made to serve in one of the fire departments. They deserve the most credit." Indeed, we do not think about the spouses or children who never know when their loved one walks out the door to go to a fire scene when, or even if their loved one will return. Nor do we think of any of the family events, holidays, anniversaries or any number of special happenings our firefighters are forced to leave in the middle of or miss altogether. We don't give a moment's thought to the six year olds birthday party that just got interrupted by daddy or mommy or uncle or aunt having to leave before the gifts are opened. We don't see or hear the disappointment in voices as goodbyes are said. We don't live with the possibility or fear that this may be the last

time we say goodbye to that loved one.

It takes an amazing person to remain in the background and be supportive of someone who has made the choice to volunteer as a firefighter. It takes a brave person, one who understands why their loved one would put the needs of an entire community above those of their families. When those sirens go off, most of us go on about our daily routine not really concerned what the siren was for. We sit down to dinner with our families or maybe attend a school event, a family function, whatever our normal day revolves around. We don't watch clocks, or if we do, it is to catch our favorite TV program. We aren't sitting close to our cell phones in case "that call" were to come in. We prepare for our bedtime routines and hit the sack at our normal bedtimes, glad the day is finally over. Across town, there is a spouse who can't go to bed yet, who can't relax and let the day wind down. Though they try to continue with their normal routine, there is always that sense of unrest until their loved one walks back in the door. Sometimes that is more than just mere hours, it is a day or two. Sometimes that volunteer doesn't get even five minutes to call home and say "I am ok and the fire is at such and such stage. I'll be home around..." Sometimes.....it is the silence that is most difficult to handle.

There is a definite feeling of isolation among these heroes for it is a lonely vigil they keep as they wait and pray for the safe return of their loved one who just hours ago rushed out the door to go save someone's property or life from mother nature. To you, the unsung heroes we give you our thanks for the sacrifices you also make to our community's well being. You are not forgotten. God Bless!



# In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

**Weather**  
Pray for Rain! Pray for Rain! Pray for Rain!  
Look'n pretty depressing out here!

**News**  
All of us in Ragtown sent our sympathies out to the Gonzales family. Eva passed away last week, she was a friend to many. Thought and prayers continue to be with, Danny and Family; Linda and family; Patrick and family and Mikey and family.  
Even though they are not Close City-ites all of us

sent thoughts and prayers out to the Walls family on the loss of little Shiloh.

The Teaff family held their annual family reunion in Abilene this year; approximately 90 family members and friends attended this year. Brad Teaff travelled the farthest coming all the way from Iraq, Brad is the grandson of Bernell and Joy Teaff. The oldest member attending was Elden Roberts who married Eva Lee Teaff. Elden is 92 years old and is proudly still driving.

**Saturday is the day... JULY 30<sup>TH</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Close City Ice Cream Social will be held. Now we've been hearing some rumors and getting some questions about where this will be held. The event will be held in Close City on the east side of the school building. All the ice cream and desserts you can eat as well as some great bluegrass music provided by Hanks and Company with special guests, Foley Bluegrass. We want everyone to know that this

event is for everyone, not just our Close City Folks so ya'll come out and support us and our community and lets make it a record attendance this year. Bring your lawn chairs as we will have plenty of shade to sit under.

**Did you know...**  
The United States has never lost a war in which mules were used.

**FYI**  
You can now get your cookbooks and T-shirt order forms at Cocara's and Caprock Heirloom down-

town Post, stop in and pick one or two up, they make great gifts and keepsakes!

**Visitors**  
Ronnie and Addi came by as well as Travis Lancaster. Yall come see us now.....remember we have the cheapest snacks and drinks in the county!

Don't forget to check out our page on Facebook under Close City Community. Feel free to write on our wall or post pictures. It's a fun place to keep up with friends and happenings.

**Close City Birthdays**  
July 30<sup>th</sup> - Jean Morris  
August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Robbie Wilke

**Close City Anniversaries**  
August 1<sup>st</sup> -Robbie and

Traci Freeman  
Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are..... Marj Caffey in Marble Falls; Doug and Claudine Tipton; Carmen Abraham; Sue Shytles in Post; Odie Kemp; Jean Tipton in Robert Lee; Jewel White in Lubbock. Others are, Mack Ledbetter in Slaton; Doris Wilson in Castorville; John and Mary Gist in Lubbock ; Lula Jo Stewart also in Lubbock .

Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

Everyone have a great week, be safe, come see us and keep rain and our troops in your daily prayers and send me your news! See ya next week.



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## Weekly Inspirations

### I DON'T SEE WHY NOT, SONNY!

By Michael F. Taylor

Several years ago, my father was pastoring a church in East Texas and believe it or not, I was rather young back in those days. But young as I may have been, I will not soon forget this particular occasion when I was reminded that youth does not always equate to health. It seems that we had a young lady in our congregation about to celebrate reaching the tender age of 85. My father must have been in his mid thirties at the time. Looking back on it now, I couldn't believe then that someone could actually live to be that old! Now, however, 85 doesn't seem nearly as old to me as it once did. My mom and dad had planned a wonderful birthday celebration after the evening service and I certainly enjoyed the ice cream and cake which came along with the party. But what has lasted in my minds eye for all of these years was when my father and mother walked up to congratulate our dear sister. Dad hugged her by the neck and said these words, "Honey, I am so happy to be here with you on your 85th birthday! I sure hope that on this same day next year, I will be able to be here and celebrate your 86th." Without even thinking or blinking an eye, she spunkily replied, "Well now, my dear Pastor, I don't see why not, sonny. YOU LOOK PRETTY HEALTHY TO ME." The Paul Harvey version of this story is; Yes, Dad did in fact live to be there for her 86th birthday. But what a wonderful attitude for that precious lady to express. She knew that God was in control of her health and because she was willing to submit her life and her light to His will, she was as healthy as a horse! And even more importantly than her physical health, she was spiritually healthy as well.

The physician Luke tells us in Chapter 11:3 "No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light. 34 Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are healthy, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are unhealthy, your body also is full of darkness. 35 See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness. 36 Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you." NIV

In Third John 1, we read, "2 Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. 3 It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to walk in it. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." NIV

My word of encouragement this week is simply to keep your light on its stand, not hidden under a bowl, so that all those who come around may see the light of the Lord in you. Keep your eyes healthy so that your whole entire body is full of the light of God. My prayer is that you truly may enjoy good health and that all goes well even as your soul is getting along well. Even if your 85 about to turn 86! Your light can shine as bright as the preacher half your age. God bless and have a wonderful week in Christ!

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

2 Timothy 3:16-17



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## Church Directory

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Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)	407 May St.		15th & Ave. S
Lifeline Church	108 N. Broadway	Church of God	
		Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Baptist		Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 990-2342	Disciples of Christ	
First Baptist Church, Post	402 W. Main St. 495-3554	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
First Baptist Church, Wilson	806-628-6333	Evangelical Methodist	
Grace Baptist Church	820 N. Ave. S 990-3497	Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-0018
		Methodist	
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	First United Methodist Church	
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F		216 W. 10th, 990-2942
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Southland Baptist Church	Southland	Nazarene	
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main	Post Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N Ave O, 990-3038,	Grassland Church of the Nazarene	327-5656
		Non-Denominational	
		Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Catholic		Caprock Springs Fellowship	12th & Ave. I 495-2171
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Presbyterian	
Church of Christ		Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326
		First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.*

Deuteronomy 6:5

Visit any one of these businesses and churches and you will find wonderful Post City people and those who support Post.



# LEGENDS...

BY LINDA PUCKETT

If you own property in Garza County, chances are the abstract was done by Charles L. Pickett. He was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1871, and came to Texas around 1895. He made the trip by steamboat to Galveston; from there he went to Crockett County, Texas. There he went to work as a cook's helper on the 7D Ranch, at that time it was one of the largest in Texas. The ranch headquarters was 18 miles west of Ozona and one of his main jobs was to drive the supply wagon to Del Rio twice a month for supplies. In the beginning, he was a real tenderfoot knowing nothing about ranch work.

About 1900 he moved to San Antonio where he worked as a bookkeeper for a wholesale grocer. Around 1903 he moved to Coleman, where he worked as an abstractor learning the abstract business and also the real estate business. He moved to Lubbock about 1906, where he formed a partnership with two other men to become Penny, Pickett and Penny. They had a real estate business, an abstract business, and a drug store.

Julia Florence Robertson was born on a farm near Independence in Washington County, Texas, on February 10, 1888. Her father moved his family to a farm near Ganado in Jackson County, Texas, where she grew up. She came to Lubbock in 1908 because of her cousin, Mrs. Joseph Penny, who wrote Julia that one of her husband's partners, C.L. Pickett, needed a secretary. Julia, who had just finished business school in Beaumont, Texas, went to Lubbock where she became employed by Mr. Pickett. Through the usual course of events, they were married October 14, 1909. During 1910 the business began to have business reverses and by the end of that year went broke. Everything they had was lost.

At that time, C.W. Post was busy developing Post City as a model town at a site he had selected, what is now about 40 miles southeast of Lubbock. He was also sub-dividing a large part of his ranch into model farms which were sold on very favorable terms.

Post City did not have an abstract firm. The railroad was coming and with all the activity

in land and real estate, an abstractor was needed. Mr. Post persuaded Pickett to come to Post and open an abstract business. At the same time he employed Pickett in the Double U Company as manager of farm loans, a job he held until his death in 1928. The Double U Company was the name of the holding company Post formed to manage the development and sale of the all his farm and town property. Mr. Pickett moved his wife and 5 month old son from Lubbock on January 8, 1911. They established themselves in a two-story house on West 11<sup>th</sup> Street where they lived the rest of their life. Five of their six children were born there. This home was directly across the street from Dr. and Mrs. A.C. Surman. Agnes Surman came to Post in 1914, at the request of Mrs. Pickett, her cousin, to teach school near Justiceburg. Julia Pickett also invited her brother, Edward L. Robertson, to come on a visit and he took up residence in Post. Ed bought a home next door. With six children in the Picket family, and two in the Surman family and two in the Robertson family, much mingling took place, and life's joys and sorrows were shared among them. All ten children were musically inclined and a variety of musical instruments could be heard through open windows as practicing took place.

Charlie Pickett was a man of honor and integrity-courteous, kind and gentle. Julie Pickett was a stately handsome woman. She was a dynamo of ambition, determination and ability, yet tempered with modesty, charm and intelligence.

In 1908, there were very few automobiles in Lubbock. Mrs. Pickett had the distinction of being the first woman in Lubbock to drive a car-a dubious distinction since it was considered to be unladylike. Modern in her taste, she was the first woman in Post to cut her hair and wear it short. She always helped her husband run their abstract business, which they established as a sideline to the work Mr. Pickett did for the Double U Company. This was the Pickett Abstract Company and it is still in existence under another name.

C.L. Pickett died Decem-

ber 22, 1928, and Mrs. Pickett continued to run the abstract company and rear and educate the six children. In 1932, she married Walter W. Hyde, an engineer who was building the highway between Post and Lubbock. He remained in Post and later became mayor

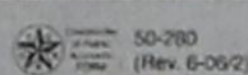
of the town. Mrs. Pickett-Hyde died October 18, 1933. She had played an important part in the development of cultural and social life in Post, organizing study clubs, bringing music teachers to the town and giving the young people a place to gather. Many a teenage dance

was held in the Pickett living room, furniture moved back, rugs rolled up and carried out, and always hot chocolate or lemonade and cookies. The two-story home of the Pickett's on West 11<sup>th</sup> Street burned to the ground in 1946.

Julia's determination that all

her children should have a college education was largely realized. All six attended college, four of them earning degrees to the Bachelor or Master's level.

[Linda's note] Well, I hope you have enjoyed reading about the Picketts' of Post City Texas.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The \_\_\_\_\_ Southland I.S.D. \_\_\_\_\_ will hold a public meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ 7:00 p.m., August 15, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Southland I.S.D. Administration Building \_\_\_\_\_ Southland, Texas \_\_\_\_\_

**The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ 1.17 / \$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ 0 / \$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

### Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	0 % increase	or	2.6 % (decrease)
Debt service	0 % increase	or	0 % (decrease)
Total expenditures	0 % increase	or	2.6 % (decrease)

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 81,060,270	\$ 66,907,771
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 0	\$ 175,808
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 79,992,090	\$ 85,647,783
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 0	\$ 172,861

\* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.  
 \*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.  
 \*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$ 0

\* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 6-06-02) (Back)

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.17000	\$ 0.00000 *	\$ 1.17000	\$ 6,274	\$ 4,599
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.18554	\$ 0.00000 *	\$ 1.18554	\$ 6,941	\$ 4,451
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.17000	\$ 0.00000 *	\$ 1.17000	\$ 6,846	\$ 3,518

\* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 27,931.49	\$ 28,039.18
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 14,834.49	\$ 15,438.59
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.17
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 173.56	\$ 180.63
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 7.07

**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.**

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.17005. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.17005.**

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 447,497.72
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

## Letter to the editor

Why would someone break into Santa's House in our Christmas village and vandalize something so sacred to children? Can you not think of something constructive to do with your time, your life, your hands besides damaging other people's property? Better yet, why not do something that would enhance our community and provide one more unique quality thing for our families and tourist to see and enjoy. Why not be an asset to our community instead of a detriment? It is a shame that actions like yours will cause us to have to house the Christmas Village behind 8 foot walls and only allow people in during certain hours and events. Why would you want to steal the joy of a child's Christmas memories? I just don't understand individuals like yourself who choose to destroy rather than to build,

to bring sadness rather than joy. I guess I just never will understand you. But I would ask that you try to understand that those houses are donated to us and they cost a great deal to build. Please try to show some respect, if not for yourself, then others and the hard work they do good for our community. Destroying property is truly a waste of your talents. Please help me make this project a good one for our community by respecting our property. I hope that whoever you are, you reconsider where your life is headed. This one act may not mean a lot to you, but it means a lot to our community. Whether you are one individual or a group, I beg you, please reconsider the direction of your life and change courses now while you still have the opportunity.

Jackie Cruse  
Post, Texas

## Dear Editor and fellow citizens

I saw this prayer in the Fredericksburg newspaper and wanted to share it. It is just as dry there as it is here. Though we don't have hills and rivers, I think this would be appropriate for us also.

Please join me in this humble request for the rain we so desperately need.

### "PRAYER FOR RAIN

Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky above, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water

can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen."

Sincerely,  
Carter T. Schildknecht



# A Tribute to our volunteer firefighters

By Jodi Lincoln

As I write this tribute to our volunteer firefighters, I am going to change pace and write from the first person. I chose to do this because I have gone out and covered these fires on numerous occasions and have seen these men and women fight fires first hand. It has been an experience that has profoundly touched my life and I want to share with our readers just what a fine group of men and women we have protecting the property and lives of those of us who reside in Garza County. It is my hope that after reading this article, you will be as grateful to and as humbled as I have been to know these people first hand.

The dictionary defines volunteer as "to offer (oneself or one's services) for an undertaking by choice and without request or obligation", among several other definitions of the word. What we tend to forget when we think of volunteers is that they are unpaid workers. They do what they do by choice and with no expectation of any form of payment for their services. What the dictionary doesn't define is the dedication, the commitment, the willingness to do whatever needs doing, the selflessness given, the time away from one's own personal activities, or the depth of sacrifices we often see among volunteers. And these are just some of the traits we see among the volunteers who staff both of the Garza County fire departments. They have many more, but I don't have the space to cover all of the words that describe this group of men and women. If you know any one person from either department, you are in the company of one of the most dedicated and honorable people you could hope to meet.

During the times I have spent out on fire scenes watching the action as our firefighters work so valiantly to fend off a raging fire and bring it under control, I have witnessed true bravery among them; I have listened in to the monitors and heard the way that they look out for each other as they become engulfed in smoke so thick they can't see past their own hand and at ev-

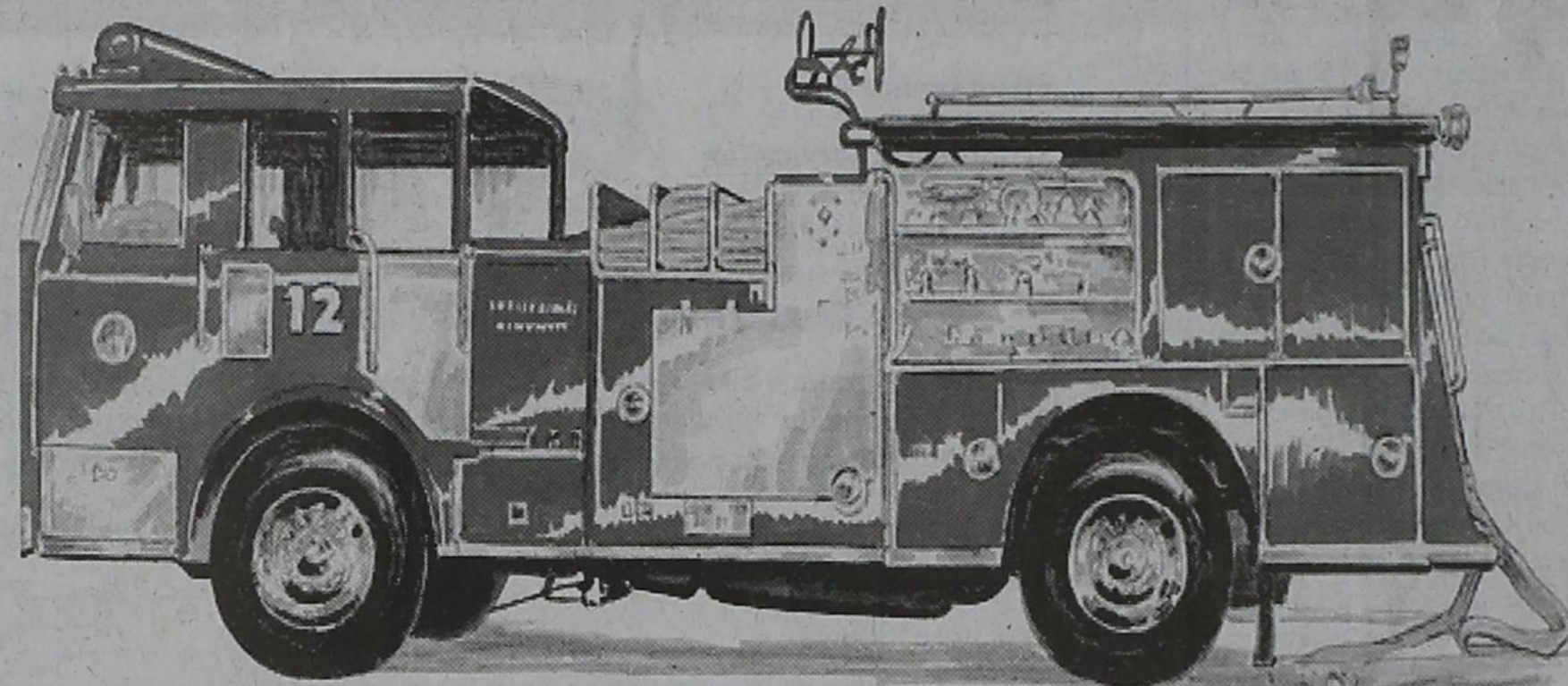
ery moment the two fire chiefs know exactly where each of their crew is. Les Looney, the Post fire chief is known to go out on these fires and be there for days, going without sleep and eating whatever someone might show up with in the way of nourishment. He isn't focused on his hunger or his weariness; he is focused on his men and the often raging inferno they are working to bring under control. Justiceburg Fire Chief Daniel Yarbro is much the same as Looney as a fire chief. He is there from the onset until the very last flame is extinguished and then some. Every second on the job he too is focused on his men and women fighting what sometimes feels like an unstoppable force of nature. To think of hunger, sleep, his

Garza County and fight fires with those boys. They know how to fight wildfires better than anyone in the state," related Yarbro. He went on to say that Garza County is serious about their firefighting and their motto is "put the wet stuff on the red stuff. We don't back burn, we don't do all these fancy firefighting techniques, we just put the wet stuff on the red stuff." Yarbro spent most of our hour interview raving about the men and women on his crew and the men on the Post crew. "I couldn't fight a fire without the Post crew and they can't fight fire without us. We are a team, we are one. There are no egos at play; there is no competition among us. We are a brotherhood and when one fire department is in need,

not do the job they do without citizen volunteers like Giles Dalby, Jr., known affectionately out there as "Brother", who shows up with his own equipment to help fight fires. Mark and Drew Kirkpatrick are also citizen volunteers who show up with their own equipment to assist. And these two families have suffered some of the biggest losses due to wildfires. Several have been on their own land. There are so many others like Mayor Theresa Harp, Judge Lee Norman, who has even removed his suit coat and gotten on the back of a fire truck and manned a fire hose; people like Joe Marts, Lisa Taylor, Regena Isbell, Melissa Flanigan, Larinda Ledbetter, and so many more. Companies like Sonic,

ers. In larger areas where firefighters receive a paycheck for their work it is not uncommon to see second and third generation firefighters. Those who are paid are equally as dedicated to their profession as those who are not paid, but somehow, to me, those who are second and third generation volunteers go beyond description in their service to their community. Of the Justiceburg department when they are called out to a fire, it is not uncommon for them to have a husband, wife, and son and sister combination all out on one fire giving their all to fight a force larger than life. Post has several father son combinations going out each time they respond, all fighting the same fire and all putting their lives on the line. Post has a third generation family on its force in the Short family. Many of us can remember Silas Short, and now his son Mark and Mark's son Jeremy both serve on the Post unit. A scenario where there is the loss of a firefighter from either of these departments would not only devastate a department, whole families would be impacted. Yet these men and women don't give their sacrifice a second thought when they head out the door to answer a siren that has just gone off.

Garza County not only is a small rural area that is uniquely different from other small towns, we also are blessed to have the most outstanding community of volunteers, volunteers unlike any I have ever been fortunate enough to meet and know, but we are known far and wide for the quality of people that we are. Our firefighters are among the best of the best in the state and we are proud and honored to call them friend, father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, uncle, aunt, cousin and a valued member of our community. This is a group of volunteers that a whole book could be written about and newspaper space is inadequate to say all the good things that could be said about any one member of this group. So, let us just say...thank you Post and Justiceburg volunteers, we commend you and your service to our community.



wife and children, or any other matter outside of the fire in front of him is just not important at that moment in time.

When I interviewed Chief Yarbro, I sat in wonder as he told me story after story of his twenty years as a volunteer firefighter in Garza County. I learned from him that College Station is the training school for firefighters in Texas. Chief Yarbro has been through their schools many times as he has advanced his own training and moved up the ranks in the department. In our conversation about his training, he related to me this long standing statement from College Station instructors about learning to fight fires. "The instructors are always telling recruits and trainees that if you really want to learn how to fight wildfires, go to

the other is there to meet that need," he stated, going on to say, "I just can't say enough good things about these people. I trust them with my life when we go out to fight a fire. I just can't say enough." I sat in wonder as I saw the emotion play across his face and heard it in his voice as he talked about his crew and the Post crew. I walked away with a whole new sense of respect for both departments.

When I went to take pictures of the Post crew, I intended to take individual pictures of the whole department. When I arrived however, a member of the department took me aside and said they preferred that I not do individual photos, but take a group photo of the firemen present because they wanted to be represented as a unit, a team and not fo-

also sometimes respond to our larger wildfires are eager to fight fires with the Garza County crew. These men and women are looked up to by so many firefighters around the state and they have a reputation for fighting fires that is heads above any department in the state, including those who work for pay in larger cities. Had I have not been out with these guys on fire scenes, these are impressions I would have never known. We residents are not fortunate enough to get to see firsthand how the men and women of both Garza County fire departments become a single entity, right down to the citizen volunteers who show up to assist.

Both fire chiefs and Michael Isbell have told me numerous times that they could

United, Strawn Transport, who hauls water to the staging areas to resupply the fire trucks, T.K. Thompson who shows up with his crew with tires to fix and change flats on the scene, High Country Pipe, Wright Construction Company and so many more companies that space does not allow to name. No one is intentionally left off the list of citizen volunteers; one and all are so deeply appreciated by the firefighters, along with Michael Isbell of the Garza County Emergency Management Office who said, "I am so proud to be a part of such a positive team of first responders. Thank you all for your continued support."

Among this group of dedicated volunteers are firefighters that are second and third generation volunteer firefight-

Our deepest appreciation to the Garza County Fire Department for all your efforts in fighting the many fires our community has experienced this summer.

-J. Cruise Christmas Gallery

In appreciation of the fine men and women of the Post and Justiceburg Volunteer Fire Department.

Thank you!

-Garza County

Our deepest gratitude for your dedication and sacrifices to protecting Garza County.

Hudman Funeral Home  
615 W. Main Street

**Covenant Health System** supports area volunteer firefighters.

Thank you for your commitment to our community's safety.

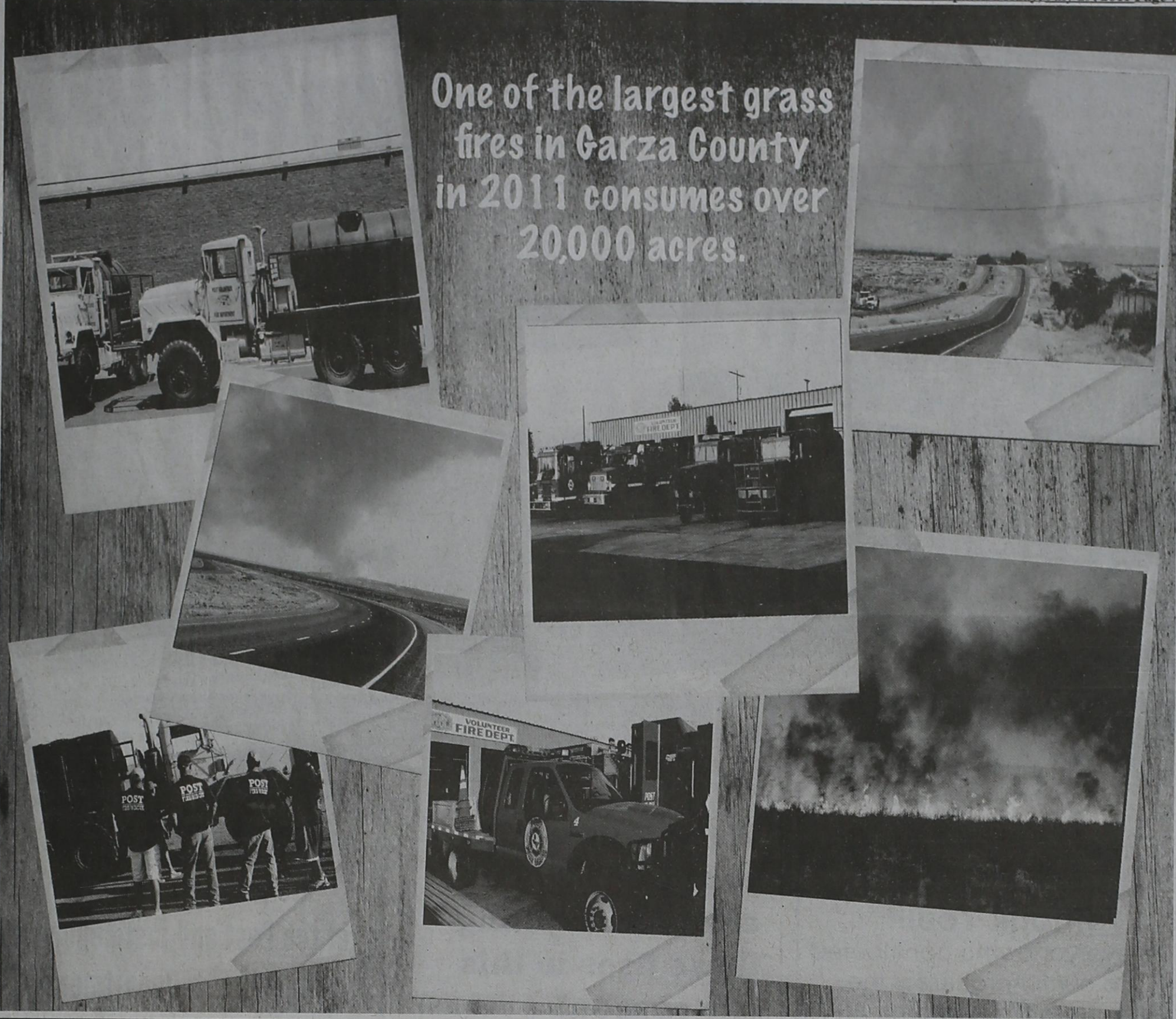
We want to take this time to thank both Garza County Fire departments for working so hard to keep our homes and families safe during such a dangerous wildfire season.

The staff of Garza County Animal Hospital

Citizens Bank thanks and supports the volunteer firefighters of the Post and Justiceburg Fire Departments.



One of the largest grass fires in Garza County in 2011 consumes over 20,000 acres.



We are thankful to live in a community of such selfless volunteers - **Brave and Valiant one and all!**



**-Gary and Lee Ann Ray**



Our deepest appreciation for a job always well done under the roughest condition by the toughest of the tough!

*Members of The City Council and the staff at City Hall*

Proud supporters of a brave and dedicated group of men and women!



**-Mayor Theresa Harp**

We are so fortunate to have such a fine group of dedicated volunteers serving the Post and Justiceburg Fire Departments. Thank you all for the extraordinary job you have done during the 2011 fire season.

Giles and Louise McCrary



**Our Community is indebted to both Garza County Fire Departments for all the many sacrifices you make to protect us.**

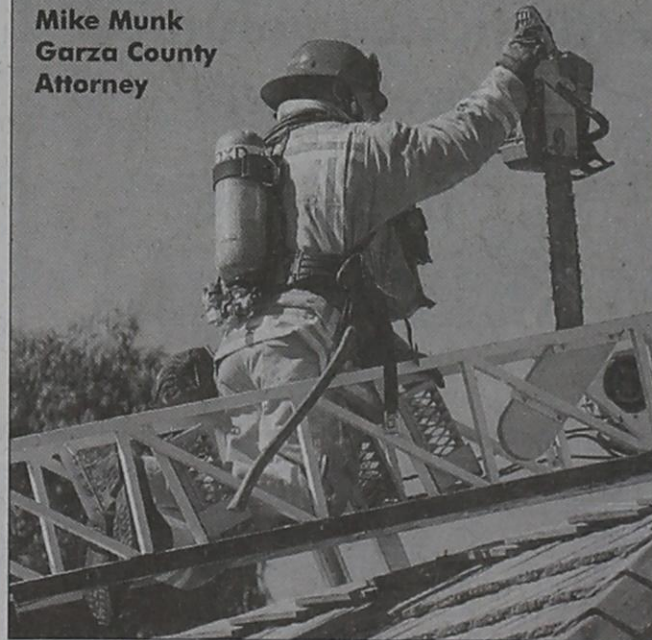


Thank you - The Crew at **MCDONALD'S** US HWY 84 • Post, TX



Thank you for working so tirelessly fighting the fires that have ravaged our county this year. You all have done a tremendous job.

**Mike Munk**  
Garza County Attorney



Thank you for the extra time you have put in to keeping us safe. You have done a wonderful job! You are loved and appreciated!



220 East Main  
Post, Texas 79356  
www.shegoneplumcrazy.com

To the best of the best,



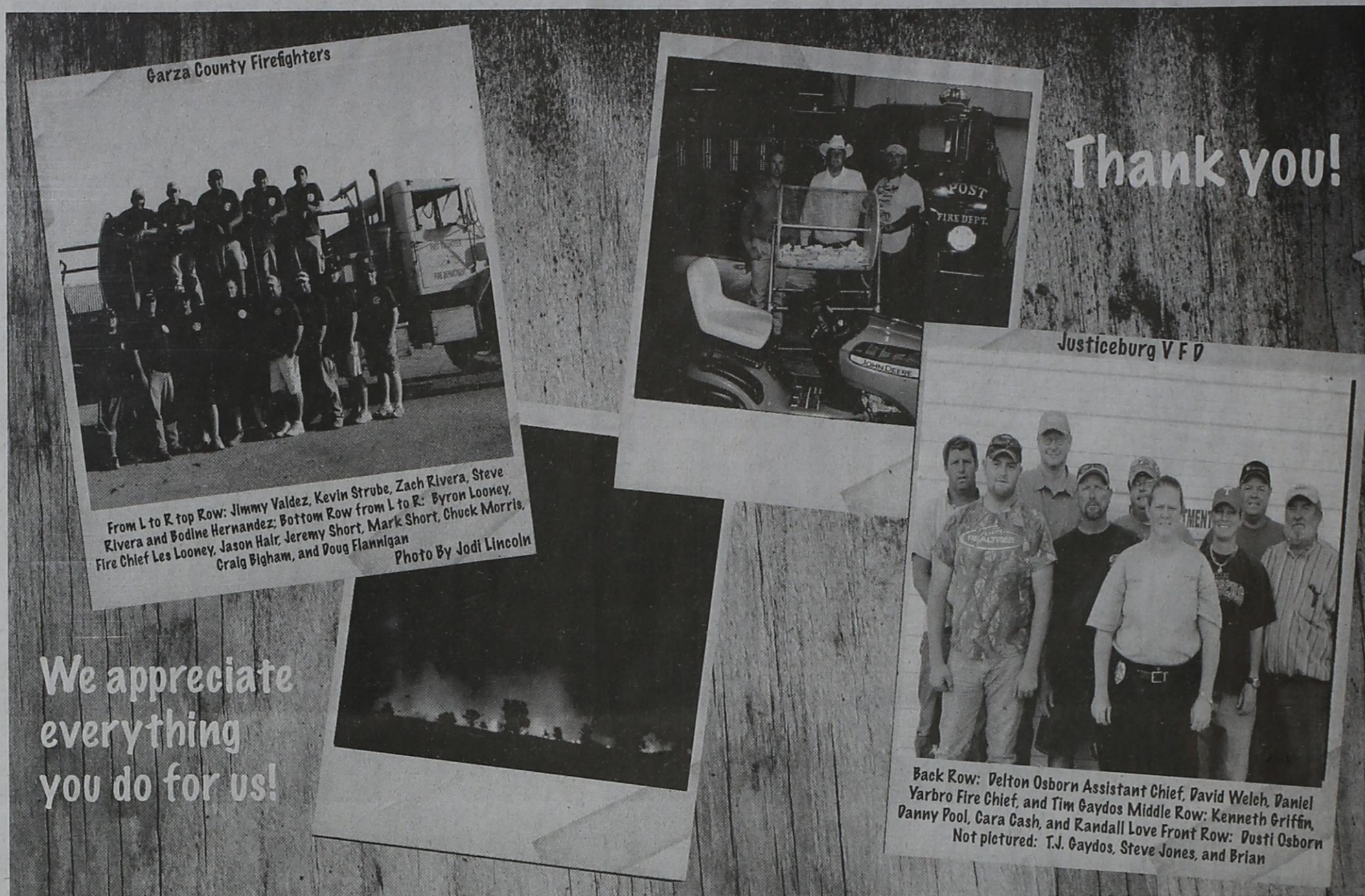
We salute you!



We are so proud of an extraordinary group of volunteers doing an extraordinary job of fighting fires.

O.S. Museum  
E. Main Street





Garza County Firefighters

From L to R top Row: Jimmy Valdez, Kevin Strube, Zach Rivera, Steve Rivera and Bodine Hernandez; Bottom Row from L to R: Byron Looney, Fire Chief Les Looney, Jason Hair, Jeremy Short, Mark Short, Chuck Morris, Craig Bigham, and Doug Flannigan  
Photo By Jodi Lincoln

Thank you!

Justiceburg VFD

Back Row: Delton Osborn Assistant Chief, David Welch, Daniel Yarbrough Fire Chief, and Tim Gaydos Middle Row: Kenneth Griffin, Danny Pool, Cara Cash, and Randall Love Front Row: Dusti Osborn  
Not pictured: T.J. Gaydos, Steve Jones, and Brian

We appreciate everything you do for us!

Justiceburg Volunteer Fire department says  
**Thank You!!!**

To everyone who contributed to our fundraiser for the volunteer fire department!!!  
Cooks, food donors, servers!  
Auction contributors!  
Auction participants!  
and  
ALL who enjoyed the benefit!!!  
But most importantly, Thanks to our volunteer firefighters!  
God Bless You!!!

**We appreciate all your Courageous efforts in fighting these fires in this fire season!**

Wells Fargo Bank  
216 W. Main St.  
Post TX



**Tanner Heating and AC are proud supporters of the Post and Justiceburg Volunteer Fire Department!**



**A heartfelt thank you to our finest and most dedicated volunteer firefighters.**

**Judge Lee & March A. Norman**

**United**  
Supermarkets

*In appreciation of the finest group of volunteer fire fighters in the state of Texas. We are proud of you!*

*The staff of United Super Markets*

We would like to express our infinite gratitude to all the volunteer firefighters who serve Garza County.

Janet and Brent Bryan, Becky, Ben and Blake

Justice Mason Funeral Home

The Kirkpatrick family is extremely grateful to the courageous men and women of both Garza County Fire Departments who put their lives on the line to protect our homes, property and families. They have gone above and beyond the call of duty each time they have been called out to fight a fire.

Best Wishes!

K.W and Patty Kirkpatrick  
Jack and Zoe Kirk  
Mark and Lisa  
Drew and Tonya  
Clint and Dena



We are so proud of the men and women of the Post and Justiceburg V.F.D.'s. You all define the words **Dedicated** and **Sacrifice**. Thank you all for the great work you do.

The Staff at Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility



# Emergency management officials warn; if there's smoke on the road - Don't drive into it

DENTON, Texas - Many Texans have lost their lives during severe wildfire seasons because a wildfire overtook them in their vehicles.

This fact has prompted officials with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to warn motorists that they should never drive into dense smoke or they could become a fire fatality.

High winds may cause wildfires to spread rapidly and jump across natural barriers such as roads and even waterways. Strong winds can force smoke to stay low to the ground, obscuring roadways and traffic signs. Texas wildfires have been propelled by wind gusts as high as 60 mph. During severe fire seasons, Texans are asked to pay attention to TV and radio broadcasts BEFORE they travel. They should be aware of fire and weather conditions

along their route.

Other tips include avoiding traveling into areas where wildfire activity has been reported and possibly even delaying trips. As motorists travel, they are advised to watch for highway signs providing information on fire danger.

Also:

Watch for traffic control personnel,

fire fighters and law enforcement officers.

Slow down and prepare to stop if signaled to do so.

Slow down when preparing to stop and turn around.

Activate emergency flashers to warn other vehicles behind you that you have decreased your speed or stopped.

Check for oncoming traffic before turning around safely.

## Host Families Needed in Post

Post, TX, July 15, 2011 - In August, **Academic Year in America (AYA)** is looking for Post families to host high school exchange students from all over the world.

This year, AYA is bringing hundreds of high school students to the U.S. to learn about American culture while living with volunteer host families and studying at high schools across the na-

tion. American families have the unique opportunity to learn about the student's culture during this mutually rewarding exchange.

AYA can help families find the ideal student for their home. The result is an enriching, lifelong relationship with a young person from abroad. In addition, for families looking to learn more about a specific culture or language, hosting a student is a fantastic way

to experience the world without leaving home.

Students are ages 15 to 18 and arrive with full medical insurance, spending money, and the hopes of experiencing life in America through the eyes of a caring host family. The students stay with their host for five or 10 months and attend the local high school.

Who can host a student through AYA? According to AYA Director

Melanie French, an important aspect of the AYA program is that there are many types of people who can host.

"Just as there is no typical American family, there is no typical host family," states French. "Retirees, single parents and young couples are all able to give an international student a good home. Some host families may not even have children of their

own. Bringing a student into your home can mean giving the gift of culture to yourself, your family, your community - whomever would benefit from exposure to a new culture."

To learn more about hosting an exchange student with AYA, call Stella at (800) 322-4678, ext. 5164, or email [aya\\_info@aifs.org](mailto:aya_info@aifs.org). Visit AYA on the web at [www.academicyear.org](http://www.academicyear.org).

### Buying or Selling?

**Casey McNeely**  
For all your Real Estate Needs  
806-549-2103 or 806-495-1758

- 2 bedroom 1 bath ch/a for sale with property Great investment.
- 1563 sq. ft. **Under Contract** Ave O in Post.
- Scurry County Ranch - 550 acres 15 miles from Snyder
- 2 Commercial Lots 1) 100x160 sq. ft. 2) 160x180 sq. ft. Great Investment
- Nice Country property 2/2 house on 3 acres in Post. Very Nice!
- Ten lots on Hwy #380 Great Investment
- For Sale: 3 bedroom, 2 **Under Contract** Post. Very, Very Nice
- 2 Bedroom, 1 bath house approximately 1,000 sq. ft. Great investment or starter home. 511 W. 15th St. Post, TX
- 3 Bedroom, 1 bath stucco home for sale, with guest house. 1541 sq. ft. 302 W. 10th St. Post, TX



1823 State Hwy 300  
Levelland, TX  
(806) 897-2327

**Pulling Units • Frac Tank & BOP  
Rental • Trucking - Winch,  
Vac, Kill/ Pump**

- Julian Olivo- Area Superintendent  
(806) 598-1188
- Bruno Zapata - Supervisor  
(806) 523-3942
- Delfino - (806) 891-2894
- Lucas - (806) 891-1048

### Post Classifieds

**Personal**  
Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous 10<sup>th</sup> and Avenue K, behind United Supermarket Tuesday night, 8 p.m. Book Study Thursday night, 8 p.m. Closed Meetings For more info: 806-781-1156 or 806-495-5371. Monday, 8 p.m., Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C. For more information about the Monday meeting, call 495-3173.

**Al-Anon**  
Family Group meeting meets Monday at 7 p.m., Historic Presbyterian Church, 10<sup>th</sup> & Ave. K, behind United Supermarket. For more information call 495-3053.

The Safe and Serene NA Group of Post now meets on Fridays at the Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Avenue C. For meeting information please contact: Miranda at 806-632-7367.

**Thank You**  
We would like to thank everyone for your prayers, calls, visits, food, cards, and help when I had my heart attack. Everything was most appreciated and God Bless each one of you.

**Bob Arnold**  
I would like to say thank you to all my family, friends and prayer warriors for their love and support during the last few months of my illness. I am very grateful and will continue to strive to be healthy again.

Thank you and God Bless you all.  
Joan Foreman

Call our 24 hour Credit Hotline to see if you qualify for a new home loan, 806-894-3883 or 800-375-8739.

New 3 Bed, 2 Bath Just \$255.51 with \$1500 down. 800-830-3515 \*29900 Sale Price; \$28400 to Finance @ 9% for 240 months WAC\*RB 13949

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Need a Home Now? Don't Wait to Use Your Tax Refund. We Tote the Note 800-830-3515. RB11394 New Doublewides. Payments Starting at Just \$387.77\* Cell Now 866-539-7780

Need a New Home Now. Don't wait to use your tax refund. We tote the note RB11394 800-830-3515

Casa Mobile 2011 16' deanchio tiene 3 Recamaras y 2 Danos \$255.51 por mes con \$1500 de entre. Llame a Rene a 800-630-3515 Fince \$29,900 e page el lipico 91/2 240 mesas con credito aprobado. RB11394

The Harper family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers and kind words during our time of bereavement. A very special thanks to Golden Plains for their special care of our brother and son during his illness. We would also like to thank Lee Norman, Jeannie and Bobby Cowdrey for their donation to Garza County Trailblazers in Earl's name.

**The Harper Family**

**Living Estate Sale**  
Moving Sale: Everything must go. July 29, 2011 and August 5, 2011. Household goods, pump truck, tools of all sorts, railroad ties, steam cleaner, antiques of all kinds, must see to believe everything priced to sale. 724 CR #220, one mile pass greenhouse

**Garage Sale**  
Friday July 29th and Saturday July 30th. 126 S. Av. F 8:00am-?

Community Garage Sale CR #25 in Grassland Nazarene Church Fellowship Hall. Saturday July 30th, 9:00-? Lots of items.

Moving Sale: Saturday July 30th. 810 W. 7th St. 8:00am-1:00pm.

Brand new, never been used nextbook/software and router for sale. Memory card/charger included. \$200.00. Call Brenda (806) 577-8321.

Furniture for sale: Living room chairs, yard furniture, tables and chairs, dining room hutch, futon, computer desk, end table, etc... Call Sandra at 806-495-2338.

**Help Wanted**  
Post ISD is now accepting applications to fill one fulltime campus custodial position. Great benefits and hours! Applicants may

pick up an application in person at 501 South Avenue K, Post, or by downloading from the school website, [www.postisd.net](http://www.postisd.net), and returning it to the above address. Post ISD does not discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of any of the following protected characteristics race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or any other genetic information.

Post ISD is now accepting applications to fill three teacher's aide positions. Applicants may pick up an application in person at 501 South Avenue K, Post, or by downloading from the school website, [www.postisd.net](http://www.postisd.net), and returning it to the above address. Applications are also being accepted for substitute teacher positions. Post ISD does not discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of any of the following protected characteristics race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or any other genetic information.

McDonalds of Post now hiring for all shifts. Apply in person or on line at [www.mcdtexas.com/25155](http://www.mcdtexas.com/25155).

**Services**  
Brush Clearing: CRP and general brush clearing. \$100 per machine hour, no hauling fees over 50 hours! Call 325-236-2417 [www.sepcaservices.com](http://www.sepcaservices.com)

**Acreage wanted**  
If you have any CRP acreage for sale, contact Mike Mitchell at 806-495-5515.

**MITCHELL REAL ESTATE: Price Reduced!!** 3/3/2, central heat/air, fireplace, and sprinkler system. Great location!! 1007 W. 10th Call Barbara 806-495-3987 or Kim 806-543-1055.

**For Lease**  
3 bedroom 2 bathroom. Large backyard. Central Heat/Air. 509 W. 7th St. Post. 806-632-5277. Beautiful home.

Stay connected!  
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The Post Dispatch  
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**Now Accepting Applications**  
Post Housing Authority is now accepting applications for two and three bedroom units.  
For information on qualifications, please call 495-2233 or come by office located at 709 Caprock Drive.  
Office hours are 8:00 AM -12:00 Noon and 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
Monday - Friday

## Post City Market Place

**Slaton Bakery**  
Est. 1923  
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**Advertise your business here!**  
Call 495-2816!

**SMITH SOUTH PLAINS SLATON**  
•Used Cars & Trucks  
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**10x12 Morgan Buildings!**  
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**Save Big Now!**  
Call 806-794-7397

**Snyder IRON & METAL**  
Snyder, Texas  
Call for current prices!  
Top prices paid!  
325-573-6862 FOR MORE INFO  
208 N. OLD POST RD.  
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
8:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.



## Bold Gold Football Camp

7<sup>TH</sup> and 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade 5<sup>TH</sup> and 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade

When: August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Time: 10:00am - 11:30pm  
 Cost: \$15.00 / individual (OR) \$25.00 / bring a buddy (12.50 each)  
 Location: Post ISD: Field House, Weight Room, and Practice Field.

\* Make Checks Payable to: Bold Gold Football Camp, due on 1<sup>st</sup> day of camp.  
 \*\* T-shirts will be given out on the last day of camp for those who have paid and are present.

## Trailblazers Menu

August 1<sup>st</sup> - August 5<sup>th</sup>

**Monday** Beans, Roll, Pie  
 Beef Enchiladas, Mexican Rice, Pinto Beans, Crackers, Cake

**Thursday** Swiss Steak, Onion Rings, Scalloped Potatoes, Roll, Chocolate Cake

**Tuesday** Pork Chops, Potatoes, Broccoli, Roll, Peach Crisp

**Friday** Fish, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw, Hushpuppies, Cake

**Wednesday** Brisket, Potato Salad, Baked

Compliments of  
**Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility**  
 Management & Training Corporation

**AG TEXAS** Clay Miller  
 FARM CREDIT SERVICES  
 P.O. Box 923  
 Dallas, TX 75357  
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## Newest Xcel Energy generating unit comes online

Lubbock, Texas-Xcel Energy customers are now benefitting from 168 additional megawatts of cost-effective power for the summer peak season after company officials today unveiled the new Unit No. 3 generation unit at Lubbock's Jones Generating Station.

Jones Unit No. 3 - made up of a gas-fired Siemens Energy combustion turbine with a summer capacity rating of 168 megawatt - began feeding the Xcel Energy grid on June 30, 11 months earlier than originally planned and \$27 million under budget. It complements two older gas-fed steam generating units built at the Jones site in 1971 and 1974 that together have a capacity of 486 megawatts. The two original units combined with Jones 3 now have a capacity of 654 megawatts. On average, one megawatt can power about 750 typical homes in the region.

Xcel Energy announced the \$116 million Jones 3 project in April, 2010, targeting a June 2012 operational date. In November 2010, the company announced it was moving the operational date up almost a year in order to meet growing electricity demand in the region. The final cost of the project came in at under \$90 million, almost 23 percent under budget.

The success of the Unit 3 project, combine with even higher forecasts for regional demand, has led the company to lay plans to add a fourth gas combustion unit at Jones. Like Unit 3, the fourth

unit eventually can be tied to a heat recovery unit that will capture waste heat to power an additional steam turbine in a configuration known as combined-cycle generation.

Riley Hill, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company, said the success of Jones 3 bodes well for future plans to meet the needs of regional electricity customers while minimizing the impact on future rates.

"We have a long history of building efficient, cost-effective power plants in this region, and Jones 3 and its future companion units are carrying that legacy forward," said Riley Hill, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy Company. "Our new generation facilities uses fuel more efficiently, which helps hold down costs in the long term and provides the best value to our growing customer base."

Hill said an additional benefit derived from Jones 3 and its future companion units is the ability to ramp up and down quickly in response to changes in the region's wind other types of power generation, and gas combustion turbines are the most effective generators for balancing wind.

"We expect Jones 3 to greatly enhance our ability to integrate additional wind generation into our mix, which in turn helps our region further develop its most abundant natural resource," Hill

said. The state-of-the-art Siemens 5000F model turbine operating at Jones 3 provides economical, rapid on-line generation for peaking duty, intermediate operation or continuous service. Jones 3 is designed initially for use as a summer peaking unit, but if the company is successful in adding an additional combustion turbine, a heat recovery unit and another steam generator at the site, the newer Jones units could be used to meet customer demand the year around.

Jones Generating Station is located southeast of Lubbock off U.S. Highway 84.

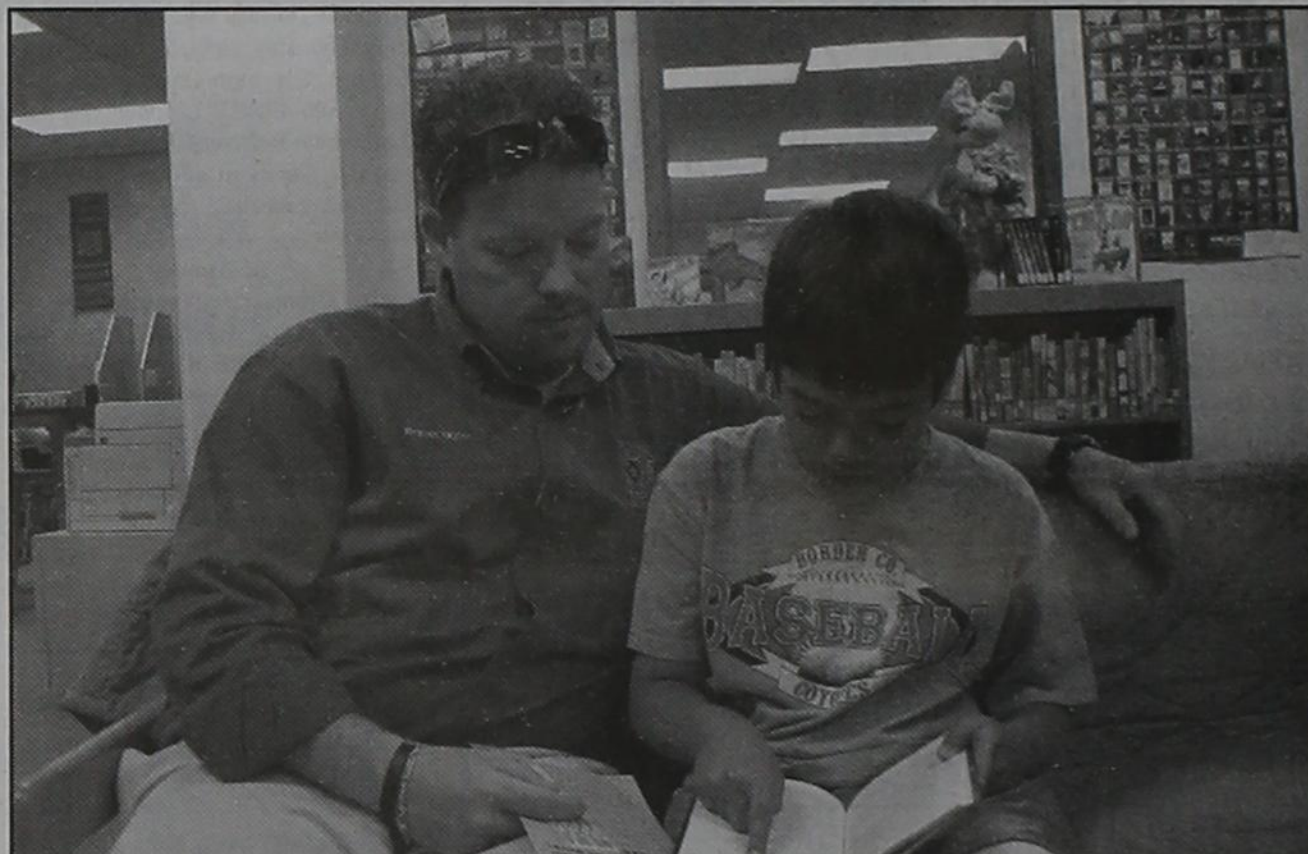
Xcel Energy's Texas and New Mexico service area covers more than 50,000 square miles, including most of the Texas Panhandle, the Texas South Plains region, and eastern and south-eastern New Mexico. Peak electricity demand in this region is currently about 5,700 megawatts.

Xcel Energy (NYSE: Xel) is a major U.S. electricity and natural gas company with regulated operations in eight Western and Midwestern states. Xcel Energy provides a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to 3.4 million electricity customers and 1.9 million natural gas customers through its regulated operating companies. Company headquarters are located in Minneapolis. More information is available at [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com).

## Brandt Taylor reading with son, Nathan

Way to go Nathan. You will be ready to tackle the school year.

Photo: Peggy Ashley, Librarian



Have A Story? Find The Post Dispatch on Facebook And Tell Us About It

## Justice Mason Funeral Home

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Romulus' twin
  - Asian nurse
  - Light bulb unit
  - Blatant
  - \_\_\_ a one
  - \_\_\_ vera
  - Tobacco wrappers (2 wd)
  - Go this way and that
  - Easiest to reach
  - Napoleon, e.g.
  - Booty
  - To a small extent
  - Three-legged hot dish support
  - Star bursts
  - Cliffside dwelling
  - 1969 Peace Prize grp.
  - Battery contents
  - Montezuma, e.g.
  - Mint
  - Mamie's man
  - Draft holder
  - Fire extinguishing agent
  - Inferior
  - Existing independently
  - New Mexico art community
  - 1999 Pulitzer Prize-winning play
  - Kings, e.g.
  - Commonplace
  - Technique using unpleasant stimuli to alter behavior (2 wd)
  - Circular, domed portable tent
  - "How \_\_\_!"
  - Object
  - Andy's radio partner
  - Burglar
  - Mideast native

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**  
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 1200 7<sup>TH</sup> ST NW  
 940-937-8668  
 WE WANT TO BE YOUR FACILITY OF CHOICE

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- Abominable snowmen
- Kind of concerto
- "Four Quartets" poet
- 1,000 kilograms
- Extend, in a way
- Act of extreme cruelty
- "Wheels"
- \_\_\_ Tower, now Willis Tower
- Intense dislikes
- Commences
- Core
- Beach
- Poet Angelou
- Egg
- "I, Claudius" role
- Like a bug in a rug
- Carbamide
- Foot
- Cowboy boot attachment
- "\_\_\_ Breckinridge"
- Two-year-old sheep

- CLUES DOWN**
- Enormous birds of myth
  - "... there is no \_\_\_ angel but Love": Shakespeare
  - Prefix with phone
  - \_\_\_ Altaic languages
  - Stanza with irregular lines
  - Amazon, e.g.
  - Algebra or trig
  - "He's \_\_\_ nowhere man" (Beatles lyric) (2 wd)
  - Mesmerizing
  - Yellowstone sight
  - On the safe side, at sea
  - High spots
  - Makeup, e.g.
  - Give off, as light
  - Dig, so to speak
  - Pottery finish
  - Creeper
  - John \_\_\_, English philosopher
  - Harvard, Yale, Brown, etc.
  - "Crikey!"

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

V	R	B	V	S	G	G	E	L	S	O	W	V		
R	U	M	E	D	E	U	R	T	J	R	U	L		
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M	S	I	U	R	L	S	H	C	R	A	V	N	O	M
E	T	V	A	P	S	E	S	E	S	E	L	E		
N	O	L	V	H	C	N	E	I	Z	A	D	I	K	E
N	I	O	C	O	E	L	A	Z	A	D	I	K	E	
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## Notice of Public Hearing on Budget

Garza Central Appraisal District

The Garza Central Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2012 fiscal year.

Wednesday, 9:00 A.M.  
 The public hearing will be held on August 10, 2011 at 124 East Main, Post

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	\$ 335,831.44
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	\$ 2,404.05
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	3 (full-time equivalent)
The number of employees compensated under the current budget.	3 (full-time equivalent)

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

Garza Central Appraisal District  
 124 East Main  
 Post, Texas 79356



# OPINION

## The Paperboy



### To dream the impossible dream

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

The following is a list of cuts proposed by the House of Representatives. Look at the list and ask yourself if there is anything you can't live without?

- The list:
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting Subsidy, \$445 million annual savings.
  - Save America's Treasures Program, \$25 million annual savings.
  - International Fund for Ireland, \$17 million annual savings.
  - Legal Services Corporation, \$420 million annual savings.
  - National Endowment for the Arts, \$167.5 million annual savings.
  - National Endowment for the Humanities, \$167.5 million annual savings.
  - Hope VI Program, \$250 million annual savings.
  - Amtrak Subsidies, \$1.565 billion annual savings.
  - Eliminate duplicative education programs, H.R. 2274 (in last Congress), authored by Rep. McKeon, eliminates 68 at a savings of \$1.3 billion annually.
  - U.S. Trade Development Agency, \$55 million annual savings.
  - Woodrow Wilson Center Subsidy, \$20 million annual savings.
  - Cut in half funding for congressional printing and binding, \$47 million annual savings.
  - John C. Stennis Center Subsidy, \$430,000 annual savings.
  - Community Development Fund, \$4.5 billion annual savings.
  - Heritage Area Grants and Statutory Aid, \$24 million annual savings.
  - Cut Federal Travel Budget in Half, \$7.5 billion annual savings.
  - Trim Federal Vehicle Budget by 20%, \$600 million annual savings.
  - Essential Air Service, \$150 million annual savings.
  - Technology Innovation Program, \$70 million annual savings.
  - Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program, \$125 million annual savings.
  - Department of Energy Grants to States for Weatherization, \$530 million annual savings.
  - Beach Replenishment, \$95 million annual savings.
  - New Starts Transit, \$2 billion annual savings.

- Exchange Programs for Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Their Historical Trading Partners in Massachusetts, \$9 million annual savings.
- Intercity and High Speed Rail Grants, \$2.5 billion annual savings.
- Title X Family Planning, \$318 million annual savings.
- Appalachian Regional Commission, \$76 million annual savings.
- Economic Development Administration, \$293 million annual savings.
- Programs under the National and Community Services Act, \$1.15 billion annual savings.
- Applied Research at Department of Energy, \$1.27 billion annual savings.
- FreedomCAR and Fuel Partnership, \$200 million annual savings.
- Energy Star Program, \$52 million annual savings.
- Economic Assistance to Egypt, \$250 million annually.
- U.S. Agency for International Development, \$1.39 billion annual savings.
- General Assistance to District of Columbia, \$210 million annual savings.
- Subsidy for Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, \$150 million annual savings.
- Presidential Campaign Fund, \$775 million savings over ten years.
- No funding for federal office space acquisition, \$864 million annual savings.
- End prohibitions on competitive sourcing of government services. Repeal the Davis-Bacon Act. More than \$1 billion annually.
- IRS Direct Deposit: Require the IRS to deposit fees for services it offers (such as processing payment plans for taxpayers) to the Treasury, instead of allowing payments to remain as part of its budget, \$1.8 billion savings over ten years.
- Require collection of unpaid taxes by federal employees, \$1 billion total savings.
- Prohibit taxpayer funded union activities by federal employees, \$1.2 billion savings over ten years.
- Sell excess federal properties the government does not make use of, \$15 billion total savings.
- Eliminate Mohair Subsidies, \$1 million annual savings.
- Eliminate taxpayer subsidies to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, \$12.5 million

- Eliminate Market Access Program, \$200 million annual savings.
  - USDA Sugar Program, \$14 million annual savings.
  - Subsidy to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), \$93 million annual savings.
  - Eliminate the National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program, \$56.2 million annual savings.
  - Eliminate fund for Obamacare administrative costs, \$900 million savings.
  - Ready to Learn TV Program, \$27 million savings.
  - Eliminate death gratuity for Members of Congress.
  - HUD Ph.D. Program.
  - Deficit Reduction Check-Off Act
- The total savings of these cuts is \$2.5 trillion over ten years. That is very significant.

Now consider this: let's say you are liberal, or progressive, and you don't want to see any cuts. Knowing it's impossible to sustain our government at the current pace, would you agree to the following:

- Tax all imports coming into the United States;
- Sell significant acreage of federal lands to U.S. individuals and corporations;
- Take 10% of GDP from Iraq and Afghanistan until our expenses of war are covered;
- Drill on U.S. soil and exploit the other natural resources existing in our borders.

Doing those things alone would grow the economy substantially and create tremendous job growth, so why not?

There are ways for us to get ahold of this country without the stupidity on display 24/7 in Washington. Once again, finding common ground on what the country wants should not be as difficult as we are led to believe.

Instead, we let government grow, create uncertainty and never gain traction.

If we don't get these issues solved soon, what is going to happen when Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana and a few more southern states are footing the bill for California, Michigan and New Jersey? I can tell you it won't be pretty.

It's time for Congress and President Obama to stop the grandstanding and badmouthing and do the necessary things required to make us solvent for the long term.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

### Other Views

## Introducing the New "Teflon President - 2012 Model"

Satire by Victor Morawski

Hey, kids! Boy are those Republicans and Tea Party Conservatives gonna' be in a tizzy when they hear this. For years they've been saying things like "In 2008 he ran on charisma and catchy slogans; in 2012 he'll have to run on his record." And "How long can they continue to blame George W. Bush for all the nation's problems?" Just wait 'til they see what we have for them.

Introducing the new "Teflon President" — 2012 Model! Since the 1980's conservatives have had their very own Teflon President — the Ronald Reagan model. Now it's time for those of us on the left to have ours. Our new Barack Obama model comes with the highest quality non-stick surface, guaranteed to last an entire campaign season.

Kids, let them throw a charge at your Teflon President and watch in amazement as it trickles down harmlessly and vanishes. Your new model will absolutely accept no responsibility for anything that could hinder his reelection chances or your money back! You'll see; nothing sticks to him — absolutely nothing.

Are they complaining that the "stimulus" bill didn't create many jobs? Tell them, "Don't blame the President, blame Congress" for not letting him spend even more as was origi-

nally suggested by James Galbraith and Dean Baker of the Center for Economic and Policy Research.

Are they claiming that if there is any economic growth at all, it's happening too slowly? Just remind them what the President himself said in a June weekly radio address "Don't blame me, blame the Japanese earthquake and Tsunami!"

Are they saying that we are still in a recession for all practical purposes? Agree with Christina Romer. Tell them not to blame the President but chide them for their lack of in-depth economic knowledge and failure to realize that we in fact are in a recovery after all, a "growthless recovery."

Are they claiming that he has had three years and the economy is not fixed yet — not even close? Just tell them he didn't know how long it was going to take to fix the mess he inherited. And kids, if it's taking him this long to fix it then who broke it? That's right! Don't blame the President, blame George W. Bush.

Are they worried about near four dollar per gallon gas prices? Don't mention his drilling moratorium and slowness in approving offshore drilling permits or his destabilization of Libya, just be like MSNBC's Chuck Todd and say, "Don't blame the President, blame the Federal Reserve" for printing too much new money — along with, of course, a greater global demand for oil.

Do they charge him with conducting an illegal war in Libya? Say, "Don't blame the President, blame Congress" for not noticing early enough that he was extending the conflict beyond the two-month deadline set by the War Powers Act and agree with him that we're just not doing enough fighting there to call it a war.

Do they moan about rising food prices? Say, "Don't blame the President, blame Global Warming" for hindering world food production, as a new Stanford University report by David Lobell claims.

These and other accusations will roll off your new Teflon President like water off a duck's back.

We do apologize that you'll have to wait 'til next year to order yours. Though hoping to have your new model out in 2011, we've hit a bit of a snag. Our product designers had wanted to convey the President's good-natured, happy-go-lucky, devil-may-care attitude toward the fact that the entire country seems to be falling apart around him by including the phrase "What, me worry?" on the base of each new model. There has been an unexpected delay though as it seems that slogan is already in use.

David Axelrod said recently that 2012 will not be a referendum on Barack Obama's policies. Why? 'Cause he knows our new model will be out by then. Why else?

## \$3 Trillion is Not \$4 Trillion

By TAD DEHAVEN

Can't these guys count? Credit rating agencies Moody's, S&P, and Fitch have explicitly warned that if Congress does not enact a fiscal consolidation plan totaling at least \$4 trillion over the next ten years, the nation's Triple-A credit rating will be downgraded.

In this context, on July 25, competing proposals were released by the House and Senate that cut \$3 trillion and \$2.7 trillion over ten years, respectively.

Are they kidding? The House and Senate are double daring the credit rating agencies to make good on their downgrade threat.

On the side of caution, one might imagine that in order to avert a downgrade, the only proposals on the table right now would reduce borrowing by at least \$4 trillion. Even on a conservative basis, it might have been wise for both chambers of Congress to overshoot the \$4 trillion mark of minimum savings by several trillion more. Why?

Because all of the baseline assumptions related to tax revenue by the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office are predicated on economic growth assumptions that are, to say the least, extremely rosy.

The Office of Management and Budget's baseline scenario already has revenues rising from \$2.174 trillion this year to

\$4.820 trillion in 2021. For the savings under either proposal to be realized, revenues will have to grow by 120 percent in the next ten years, and the economy will have to practically double in size.

If those numbers are wrong and revenue only rises to \$3.5 trillion in 2021, the debt will actually increase by more than \$7 trillion above the projected baseline, more than erasing any savings from either plan.

When one delves further into Moody's criteria governing a downgrade, both proposals will likely fail to avert a downgrade should interest owed reach 18 to 20 percent of revenue paid to the Treasury. The trouble is that at \$430.4 billion, gross interest already reflects 19.79 percent of revenue.

Even if the government's rosy predictions of economic and revenue growth prove to be true, by 2021, the \$1.3 trillion of gross interest on the national debt will total over 26 percent of revenue, and that's if interest rates only rise to their historical norm of 5 percent. By then, we'll have long since been downgraded.

Perhaps congressional leaders have received private assurances from the credit rating agencies that these proposals will avert a credit downgrade. Or, maybe they have secret knowledge of robust economic growth coming in the next ten years.

Or, perhaps they don't take the threat of a downgrade seri-

ously at all.

Considering that both proposals are being presented as political solutions to what amounts to a math problem, it appears most likely that this threat is not being taken seriously.

And that should make all Americans nervous.

What makes these politicians think the U.S. is impervious to a credit downgrade? Other sovereigns who are subject to the same credit ratings — that too have been downgraded — are likely to demand equal treatment for the greatest debtor of all, the U.S., when it fails to meet the basic threshold set by the agencies in defining fiscal sustainability.

Those who assume an American monopoly on creditworthiness are risking everything in exchange for very short-term political calculations that will become irrelevant post-downgrade.

Now, neither political party in Washington is offering even a minimum solution to the gargantuan debt crisis we face, when soon the debt will become so large it cannot possibly be repaid.

Yet if either the House or Senate proposals pass, they will fall short of the \$4 trillion minimum necessary to get our fiscal house back in order. If we are downgraded, it will have been from a failure of courage and leadership of both political parties in Washington.



Post Notes... continued from page 1

munity Center and the games will be from 6:00 – 8:00 with one 20 minute intermission. No one under 10 years of age will be admitted. If you need additional information, please call the PACC office at 495-3461

**Pride of Post, High School Marching Band**, will meet August 4<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) and August 5<sup>th</sup> (Friday) from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the afternoon and August 8<sup>th</sup> (Monday) and August 9<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) 7:00pm-9:00pm. All at the Band Hall. A quick start for a great year!

**Close City-Garlynn Reunion**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011 10:00A.M-3:00P.M.? In the Garden Room at Chapas Family Restaurant just North of Post on Hwy. #84. Come for coffee and donuts and visiting at 10:00A.M. For lunch just order from the menu and go Dutch....For more information contact: Mriam O'Nea 1 Oneita Gunn

111 Arroyo Dr. 1023 US Hwy. #380  
Post, Tx 79356 Post, Tx 79356  
806-495-2002 806-495-2009

**Post High School class of 1956** will celebrate its 55<sup>th</sup> class reunion on Saturday, August 6, 2011 at the Trailblazers, Senior Citizens Center in Post. The reunion will begin at 9:30am with a full breakfast. Visitation will continue until mid to late afternoon. The class invites former PHS students to visit with us during this time.

Summer Lesson Series:  
**"Faithfulness"**  
Post Church of Christ  
108 N. Ave M. Post

Speaker:  
July 27, 11 Dale Huff

Topic:  
In Fellowship with Brothers  
And Sisters in Christ.

Of Snyder  
August 3: Terry Ellison  
Of Crosbyton Christ.

Summary of Faithfulness in  
Spiritual Discipline: Bible  
August 10: Ron Bontrager  
Study Of Lubbock 7:00pm. For more information call: 806-495-2326 or 495-0887.

**3rd Annual Close City Community Ice Cream Social**  
Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 30th; that's when the 3rd Annual Close City Community Ice Cream Social will be held in Close City on the east side of the school starting at 7:00 p.m. EVERYONE is welcome so grab your friends and your lawn chairs and come out and enjoy all the home made ice cream and desserts you can eat as well as some great bluegrass music provided by Hanks and Company with special guests Foley Bluegrass.

**3rd Annual Howdy Yall Day!**  
Saturday August 13, 11. 11:00am-2:00pm. Garza Co. Trailblazers 205 East 10<sup>th</sup> St.

Post, Tx 79356. Hamburger, chips, drink, dessert (homemade ice cream) and all the trimmings. \$6.00 per plate. Proceeds go the Garza Co. Trailblazers. Raffle for BBQ Grill \$5.00 per ticket for 5 for \$20.00. Donated by Willborn's Welding.  
Live music, silent auction, Classic Cars, Antique Tractors.

**Summer Rec Students:**

Students who attended summer rec and have movie passes can use them until the end of July. The deadline has been extended. Please use your movie passes if you have them. Call Lorie Rivera at 495-3253 or 441-8465 for more information.

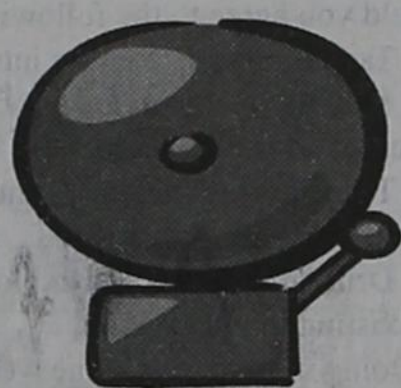
**Rodeo Parade**

The Post Stampede Rodeo will be here on August 11, 12 & 13 which means the Rodeo Parade will be at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 13. If you would like to participate in the parade, please contact the Chamber office at 495-3461.

**Boys and Girls Clubs News Release:**

Boys and girls throughout the United States are benefiting from a car donation program. Donated cars do not have to functional they only need only a title. The cars are picked up then sold at auction and the funds generated are a helpful resource to the clubs. You can support your local club by donation your car. To donate your car or for more information, call 800-246-0493.

**HEAT ALERT!!!**



Help your pets beat the heat!!  
Make sure they have plenty of shade and water.



SHADE



WATER



HAPPY PET!!!

Sponsored by the Garza County Attorney's Office

Little Town... continued from page 1

free up an ambulance which had to remain on the scene during the fires. According to Mark Short, treasurer and point of contact for the Post department, "there have been a few instances where firefighters and others at the fires have gone down due to heat and stress and they had to be attended to by our EMS. They had to be given IV fluids and cooled down rapidly. When instances such as this happens, an ambulance is kept tied up on the fire scene that might have been needed on a medical call. The heat at the fire scene is intense, even when you are at the staging area." Short went on to describe the trailer in detail saying, "The Rehab Trailer will be equipped with air conditioning, medical supplies, cooling chairs, cooling vests and other supplies our EMTs need in order to ensure the safety of the firefighters and others at the scene. The trailer will also have an awning with two 18" water misting fans that will provide a shaded cooling area where firefighters can sit and cool down while their trucks are being filled with water or having flats repaired." The trailer is expected to be delivered in mid-August.

Short continued with, "The main focus has been to get the new 5 ton brush trucks completed and running since this has been our greatest need. Currently we are now working on getting the remaining original equipment that has taken such a heavy beating this year back in shape. Justiceburg gave Post one of its

2 1/2 tons and when we purchased the 5 ton for them. The Post department is continuing to look for another 5 ton at this time."

When asked if they were still in need of funds, Short responded with, "We are in very good financial shape at this time. But we are a volunteer department, so we will always welcome donations. The city and county have always been there when we need anything. The citizens of Post, Garza County and the surrounding area have shown that their generosity and support for our departments is there, and the response to our needs this year has been humbling to say the least."

The citizens of the community and the county came together at a time when there was a need among the community and did what few small towns could do, especially given the current economic times and the drought that has taken a severe toll on the community as a whole. They raised \$230,000.00, most of which was local money. Businesses, individuals, groups, children, adults, the elderly...everybody gave some. Yes, Post, one might say, is the little town that could.....and did. A community that could be described much like many other rural towns except it is not like many other small towns. Post was founded by a true pioneering spirit, and though the founder of that great little community is long gone, that pioneering spirit that he brought with him to Garza County is alive and well today.

**Legal Notice**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT (to increase pressure)**

J-D Oil Co. has applied to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to raise the pressure to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Glorieta, Valton Wheeler Well #2. The well location is located 10 miles north of Post in the Sims (Glorieta) Field, in Garza County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval of 3700 to 3800 feet.

LEGL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).



All-Star Major League Softball team

**Congratulations Girls Softball Team!**

**CitizensBANK**

www.bankoncitizens.com  
Post, TX (806) 495-3545

MEMBER FDIC  
Lobby Hours 9-3 M-F  
Drive In Hours 9-6 M-F  
9-12 Sat



Covenant Mobile Mammography will be providing screening mammograms in Post.

June 29, 2011  
United Supermarket  
123 N. Broadway

For information or to schedule an appointment call 1.877.494.4797

Financial assistance, for those who qualify, is funded in part by the Lubbock Komen for the Cure.

